

The Graphic Novel

Sleeping Beauty

13

RETOLD BY MARTIN POWELL

ILLUSTRATED BY
SEAN DIETRICH

WTC 1111

LIBRARIES NI	
C701168215	
RONDO	30/08/2012
J	£ 4.99
LSBNCL	

The Graphic Novel

Sleeping Beauty



Cast of Characters

KING

QUEEN



THIRTEENTH FAIRY

PRINCE



ROSE
THE SLEEPING BEAUTY



Once upon a time in a Welsh kingdom,
there lived a king and queen.

They were kind, noble rulers
loved by all of their subjects.



Their days were healthy and rich, filled with
everything almost anyone could ever desire.

Yet they felt a great emptiness.
Something was missing.



And without it, they could
never be truly happy.

One day, during a lonely walk through the forest, the queen paused beside a strange pond.



Oh, I wish...



I wish for...



You wish for a child, my good Queen.



Who are you? How did you know?

I am a lonely creature like yourself, kind lady.

As for your secret wish, even the trees feel your sadness.



For ages, I have hoped for a visitor.

So you see, my Queen, there is always hope.



Wishes do come true.

Twelve months later, the words of the wise old creature came true.



A beautiful, perfect princess was born to the queen and king.

A feast was prepared in celebration, and all the magical folk in the kingdom were invited.



Plates of the purest gold were set upon the great table awaiting the twelve Good Fairies.

The Fairies were ageless sisters of great power.




Each one of them had a magical gift.

This was to be a night of wonder . . . the making of a legend never to be forgotten.







Sweet Princess,
I offer you the gift
of kindness, so that
your goodness will
shine like the sun.

I bring
wisdom, so
you will always
know the truth
from lies.

I grant
you wealth,
so that you
may share it.

And I,
modesty, so
you never forget
the value of
others.

Your gift
of music will
inspire all who
hear you.

My blessing
of imagination
will help you make
dreams come
true.



I give the gift of health, for a happy, long life.

The gift of happiness shall bring joy to all who know you.

I offer you graciousness beyond compare, little Princess.



You shall grow in beauty, to be forever honoured.

Mine is the gift of love, the greatest of all virtues.



Precious Princess, mine is the gift of —

Enough!




How dare you!!

How could
you forget the
Thirteenth
Fairy?


I count only
twelve golden
plates at your
table.

You are
the number
of bad luck,
Thirteenth
one.


You
are not
welcome
here.



I didn't realize you were so superstitious, your majesty.




Then punish me! But please don't harm our child!



But that's no excuse for insulting me in this way.

Silence!



The Princess shall indeed grow in beauty and goodness, deeply loved by all who know her.

But on her fifteenth birthday, she will cut her finger on the spindle of a spinning wheel...

... and she will die!!



That is
my curse!

HA HA HA HA HA HA!

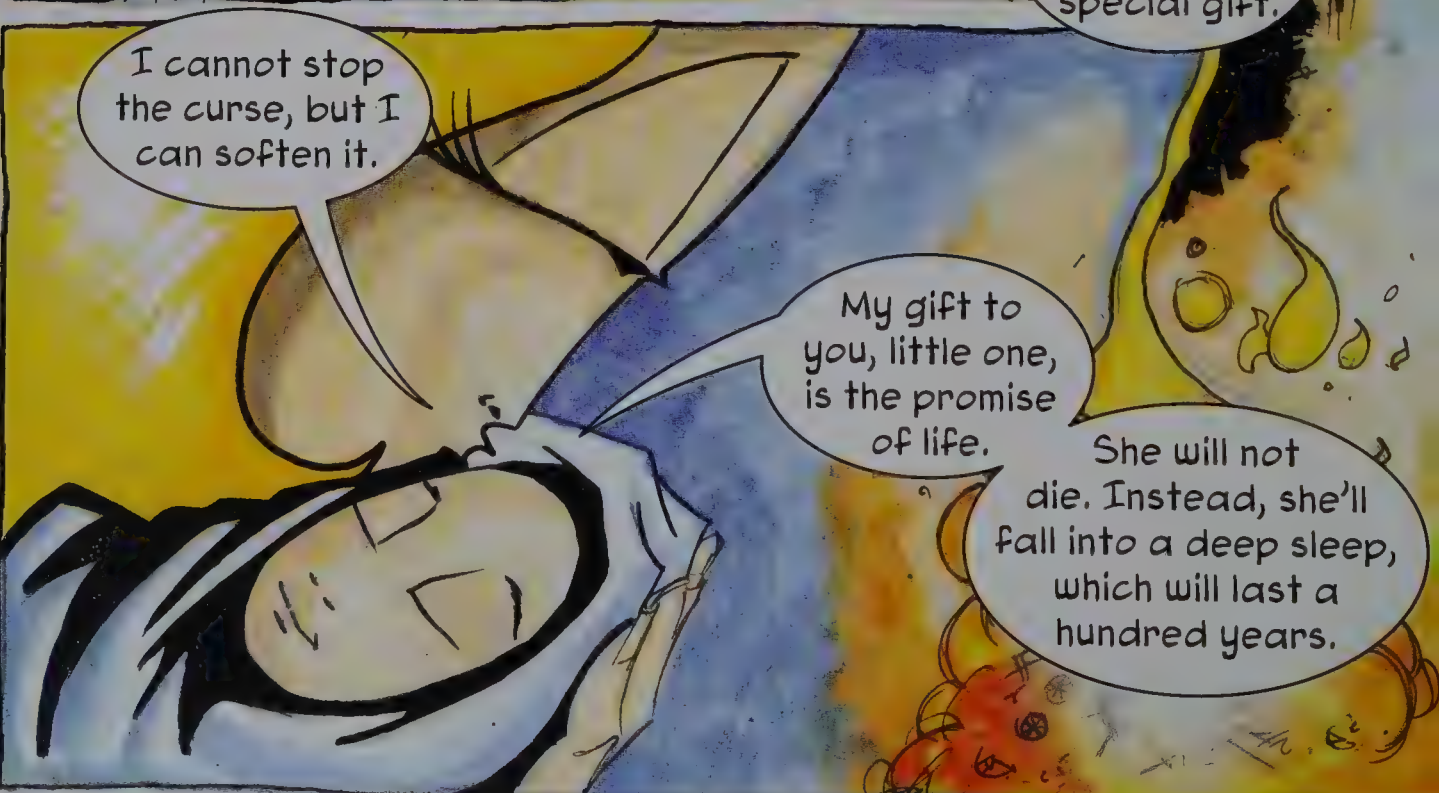
Then the Thirteenth Fairy disappeared
before the echoes of her laughter had faded.



Our
baby! Our
poor little
girl.

Have
courage,
dear Queen.


The princess
has not yet
received my
special gift.



I cannot stop
the curse, but I
can soften it.

My gift to
you, little one,
is the promise
of life.

She will not
die. Instead, she'll
fall into a deep sleep,
which will last a
hundred years.




The Good Fairies' gifts made Princess Rose wise, kind, and beautiful. She was loved by all who met her.


As the years flew by, the king and queen forgot about the evil curse.

Early one morning they set out to find a birthday gift for the princess, leaving Rose alone in the palace.


It was her fifteenth birthday.



Finally, a chance to explore!




There's a light under that old door. How odd!



Happy birthday, Princess.

I have brought you a special present.

It's beautiful! But what is it?



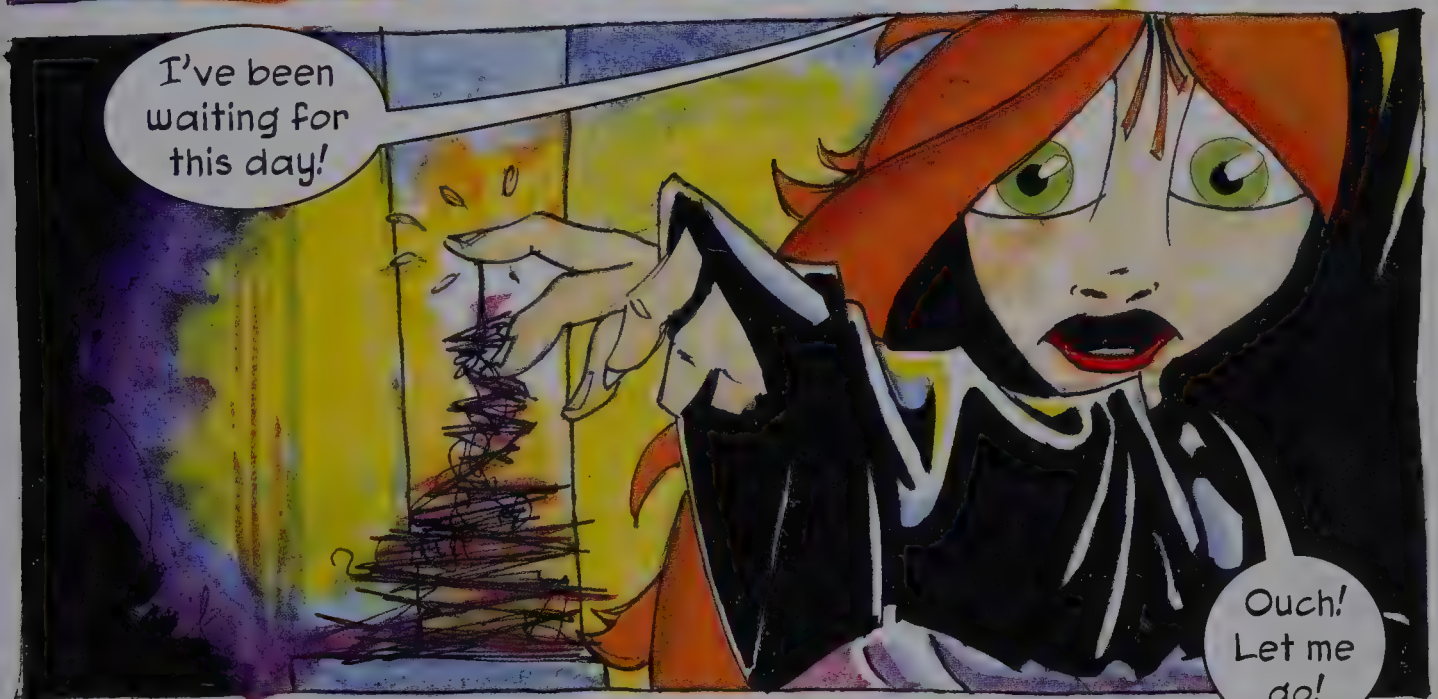
It's a spinning wheel.

Come closer, child.



Who are you, good lady? I've never seen you before.

Really? I've watched you for years, Princess.



I've been waiting for this day!

Ouch! Let me go!



So ... sleepy.



HA HA HA HA HA!

Upon their return, the king and queen found that their forgotten fears had come true.

The curse had been fulfilled.

And there was nothing they could do to stop it.

Princess Rose would sleep
for one hundred years.



Heartbroken, the king and queen were
overcome by the same dark sleep.



The curse had started to spread.

Soon, the entire castle fell
into an awful slumber . . .



. . . followed by the entire kingdom.

Many years later . . .

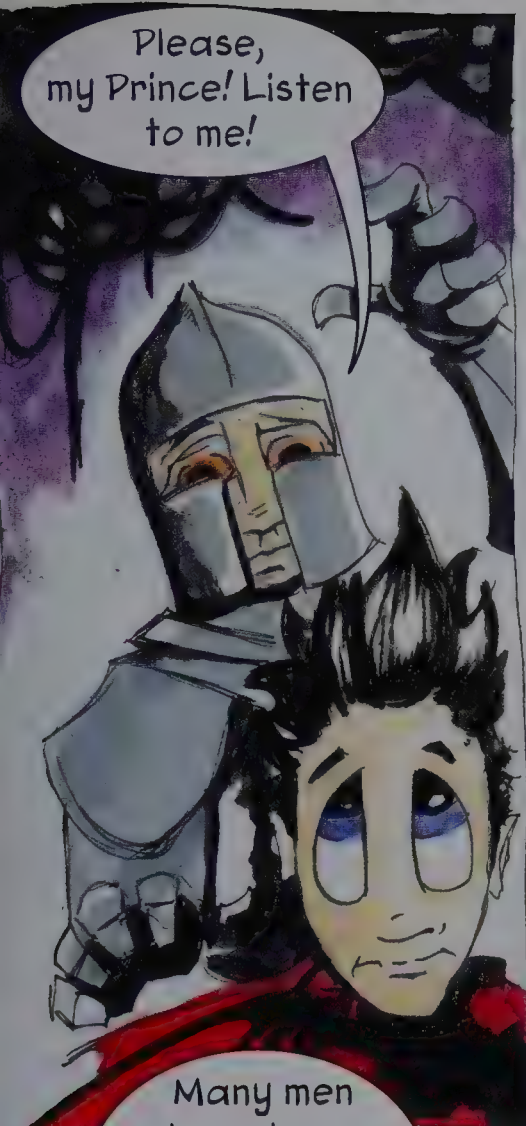
They
say the evil fairy
died years ago,
but her curse still
remains.

These
thorns have
been crawling over
the land for a century,
holding the kingdom
prisoner.


I'd turn
back now, if I
were you.

Sorry, Sir
Knight. No
chance.

You know
me, stubborn
as a mule.




Please,
my Prince! Listen
to me!



You've told me
the tale of the Sleeping
Beauty all my life. As did
my father, and my
grandfather.


I must see
her with my
own eyes.



Many men
have been
swallowed up
by that maze
of thorns!

I don't
know, but
I must try!

What makes
you think you'll
succeed?



I will
admit, I
admire your
bravery.

Take
care, young
Prince.

As the prince slashed through the deadly thorns, he felt as though he was not alone.



Suddenly, evil eyes blinked open all around him.

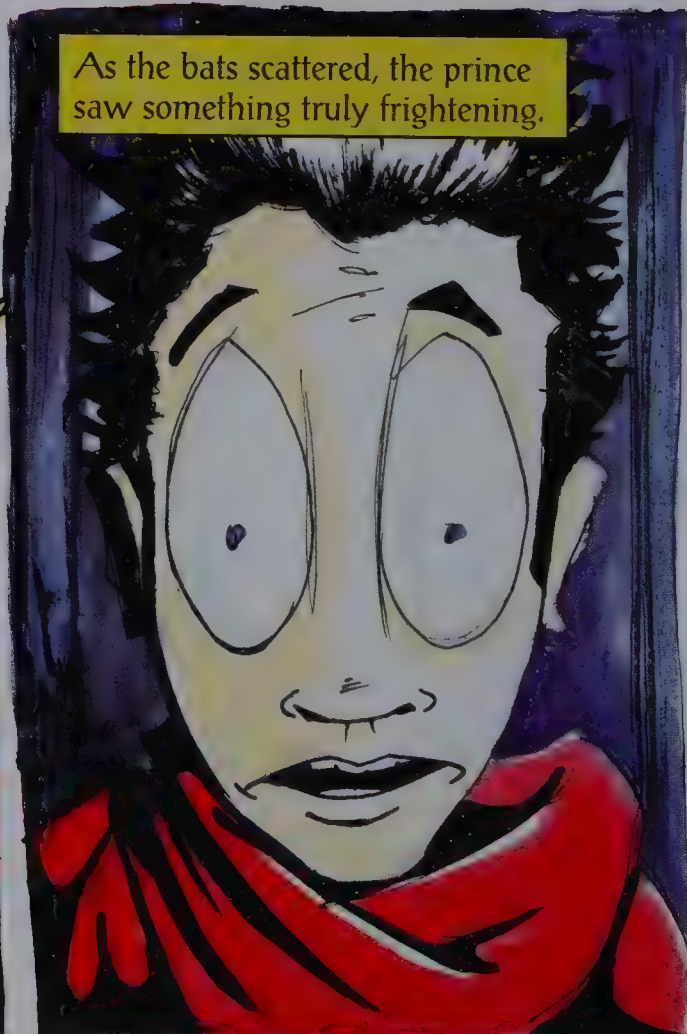
Who goes there?!



As the bats scattered, the prince saw something truly frightening.

Just a few pesky bats.

Be gone, all of you!



He had found what was left of the knights who had gone before him.



Rest in peace, fallen knight.



CREAK

I will finish the quest that you began.

Soon, the prince came upon the sleeping rulers.

So the legend is true.

The spell of sleep still holds.

The scent of roses is much stronger near the tower.


That's where I'll find her.

CRASH!!


Princess Rose...

... the
Sleeping
Beauty.





"It feels like I've
seen you before."




Princess
Rose, I know
your face. I
know you.

It's just
like ...



Magic.

Suddenly ...



You
fool ...

None may
save the
Sleeping
Beauty.

The Thirteenth Fairy's evil spell had
brought the fallen knights back to life.

The prince was not afraid.

SMACK!

He quickly defeated the first skeleton.

But as he turned to fight the others . . .

SWOOSH!

THWAP!

. . . a mighty blow sent him flying through the window.

Ugh!

POP!

As he fell, the prince caught hold of a thorny vine and pulled himself back inside.


I cannot fail her.

No matter what it takes!

FWOOSH!

The thorns . . .
I'm poisoned!


The evil spell began to take hold of the prince.



I must
wake her
and lift the
curse.

Otherwise,
I am doomed
as well!

The prince's words had stirred the
Sleeping Beauty from her slumber.



At that moment, the spell of
sleep ended its 100-year hold.



Princess
Rose!

I... I
know your
face.


Is this
a dream?



The curse had been lifted.



Soon, life returned to the slumbering kingdom.



After one hundred years of slumber, the Sleeping Beauty's dreams had finally come true.

She found her prince.

And they lived happily together, ever after.





ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Since 1986, Martin Powell has been a freelance writer. He has written hundreds of stories, many of which have been published by Disney, Marvel, Tekno Comix, Moonstone Books, and others. In 1989, Powell received an Eisner Award nomination for his graphic novel *Scarlet in Gaslight*. This award is one of the highest comic book honours.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Sean Dietrich has been drawing since the age of 4. He had his first art show at age 6, self-published his first comic book at 16, and has won more than 53 art awards throughout the years. When he's not drawing, Dietrich says he spends too much time in front of the TV playing video games.





GLOSSARY

ageless seeming never to grow old

curse evil spell intended to harm someone

graciousness people who are gracious do what is polite, kind, and right

desire strong wish or need for something or someone

legend story handed down from earlier times

modesty people who are modest do not brag about their abilities or possessions



spindle rod on a spinning wheel that holds or winds thread

stubborn not willing to change

superstitious believing that some things are lucky or unlucky

virtue good quality or characteristic









THE HISTORY OF SLEEPING BEAUTY

Like so many fairy tales, the story of Sleeping Beauty was first an oral tale. It was passed from person to person through speech, rather than being written down. In 1697, a French author, Charles Perrault, published a written collection of these fairy tales. His book included "Little Red Riding Hood", "Cinderella", and of course, "The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood".



Perrault's story included a second part, which takes place after the prince wakes Sleeping Beauty. The happy pair are married and have two children. But the prince keeps his marriage a secret from his mother, who is an ogress (female ogre). After he takes the throne, the prince brings his family to the castle. When he is called away to war, his monster mother makes plans to eat her daughter-in-law and grandchildren. The prince returns just in time. His mother throws herself in a pit of snakes, and the rest of the family is free to live happily ever after.





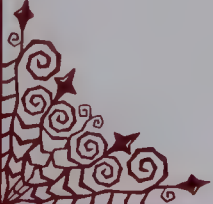
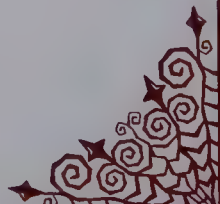
Over the years, there have been many variations of the classic fairy tale, and the “sleeping beauty” herself has been given different names by different authors.

Sleeping Beauty is the theme of a famous Russian ballet composed by Pyotr Tchaikovsky in 1890. Tchaikovsky’s music was also used in the Walt Disney film version of the fairy tale. The 1959 film took five years to animate. It cost \$6 million dollars to make, but the film earned only \$3 million when it hit cinemas. Today, however, *Sleeping Beauty* is considered one of Disney’s classics. It is the Disney version of the story that many people are most familiar with.







DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Pretend you are one of the fairies who grants a gift to the baby princess. What gift would you give the princess and why?
 2. Imagine everyone in your school fell asleep for a hundred years, just like the kingdom in the story. How would life be different when you all woke up?
 3. Fairy tales are often told over and over again. Have you heard the "Sleeping Beauty" fairy tale before? How is this version of the story different from other versions you've heard, seen, or read?
- 
- 



WRITING PROMPTS

1. Fairy tales are fantasy stories, often about wizards, goblins, giants, and fairies. Many fairy tales have a happy ending. Write your own fairy tale. Then read it to a friend or family member.
 2. Write a new version of "Sleeping Beauty" with a different curse. Maybe Sleeping Beauty becomes Dancing Beauty, a girl who cannot stop dancing for 10 years. What curse can you think up?
 3. Imagine that someone else woke Sleeping Beauty before the prince had a chance. What if an old woman woke her up by vacuuming? Or perhaps a little boy tickled her with a feather. Write the wake-up scene between this new character and Sleeping Beauty.
- 
- 



OTHER BOOKS IN THE SERIES

Beauty and the Beast

978 1 406 24317 8

Jack and the Beanstalk

978 1 406 24319 2

Red Riding Hood



978 1 406 24772 5

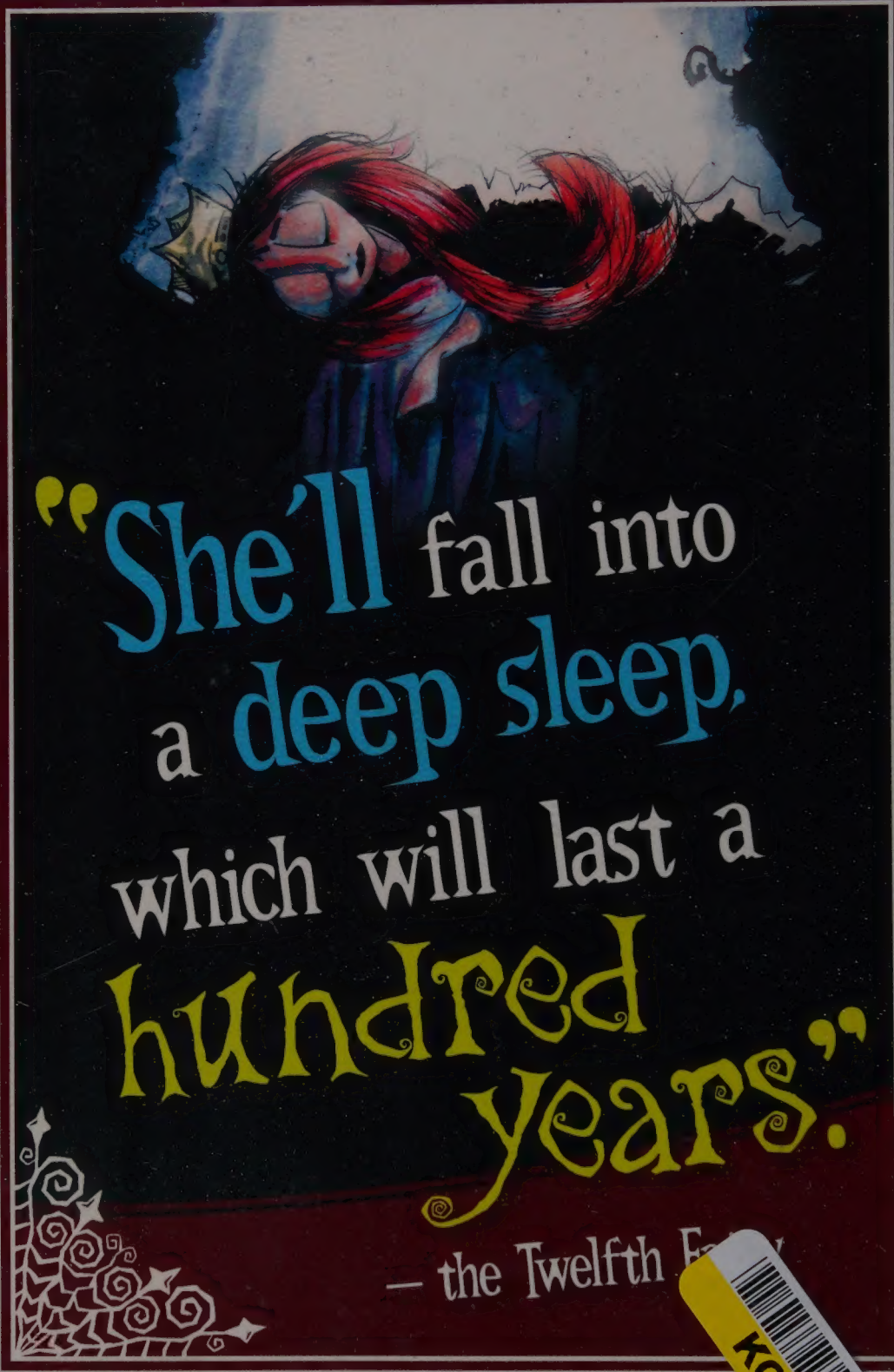
MORE FAIRY TALES TO ENJOY

The book may be over, but the adventure is just beginning.
There are many other exciting and fantastical tales for you
to discover:

Grimm's Fairy Tales (Usborne Illustrated), Ruth Brocklehurst
(Usborne, 2010)

Hans Christian Andersen's Fairy Tales (Usborne Illustrated),
(Usborne, 2011)





a capstone company - publishers for children
www.raintreepublishers.co.uk

ISBN 978-1-4062-419-1



9 781406 247718

KO-177-419